

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Bulgaria REPORT [] 25X1

SUBJECT Garrison at Lom DATE DISTR. 13 May 1955

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PLACE ACQUIRED REFERENCES

DATE ACQUIRED [] This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. A group of about 15 men with black shoulder boards, red piping and some with the tank insignia were observed at the southeast entrance of Lom on the road coming from Mikhaylovgrad and on the bridge which crosses the Lom River. In the city of Lom, four or five artillery officers and an officer with the tank insignia were seen. An artillery commander was seen in a restaurant.
2. On 24 February 1955, at 1 p.m., a 76.2 mm. drawn, Model 1939, gun crossed Lom coming from the north and headed toward the south of the city. At 2 p.m., two other guns of the same type followed the same route. The truck pulling the gun had the characteristics as shown on the sketch in the Appendix. Six gunners were seated in rows of three facing each other in the truck. They were helmeted and armed with artillery carbines. In the cab of the truck a noncommissioned officer was seated next to the driver.
3. Buildings which appear to be barracks have been located to the south of Lom on the road which leads toward Momin Brod and Vasilovtsi. The guns described above were seen headed toward these buildings. Undoubtedly they were returning from an exercise or parade in view of the uniforms of the men.
4. Large barracks are located at the southwest exit of Lom and to the west of the Momin Brod - Lom railroad line. The following were observed:
 - a. Two 1-story barracks, 80 meters long, on the west side;
 - b. Three large garages, two of them having about 20 entrances, on the north side; six T-34 tanks, two of them covered, were seen on the outside of the garages;
 - c. A sports field, along the railroad line, on the east side;
 - d. Two large garages in the center of the area, in front of which were a aligned 10 trucks; and

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STATE	X	ARMY	EV	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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e. Six artillery guns, two of them 76.2 mm., were observed on the south side and in the center court.

A T-34 tank was seen headed toward the barracks described above.

5. A SU 76, guarded by two men, was seen on a platform at the Brusartsi station, 23 kilometers south of Lom.

Comment: Since the men and officers seen were artillerymen, the following are probably based at Lom:

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- a. A unit of 76.2 mm. guns, Model 1939; and
- b. An armored unit which could be a tank battalion, subordinate to the division at Vratsa.

Legend to Sketch included in Appendix:

- 1. Central station called "South Lom"
- 2 - 3. Shops and sheds of Freight Station,
- 4. River Station
- 5 - 6. Warehouses of River Station
- 7. 50 ton crane on rails
- 8. Jetty for river boats
- 9. River station
- 10. Barracks.

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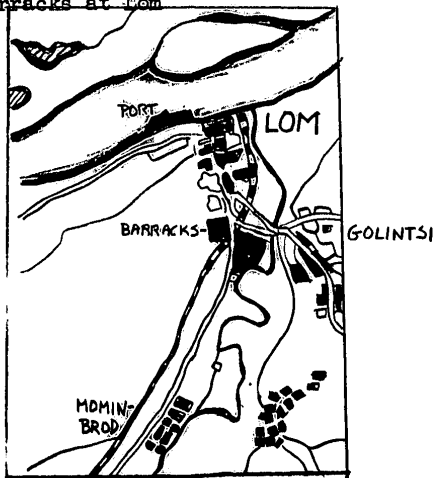
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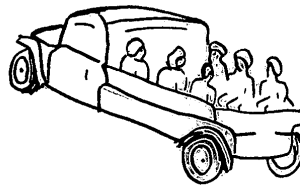
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APPENDIX

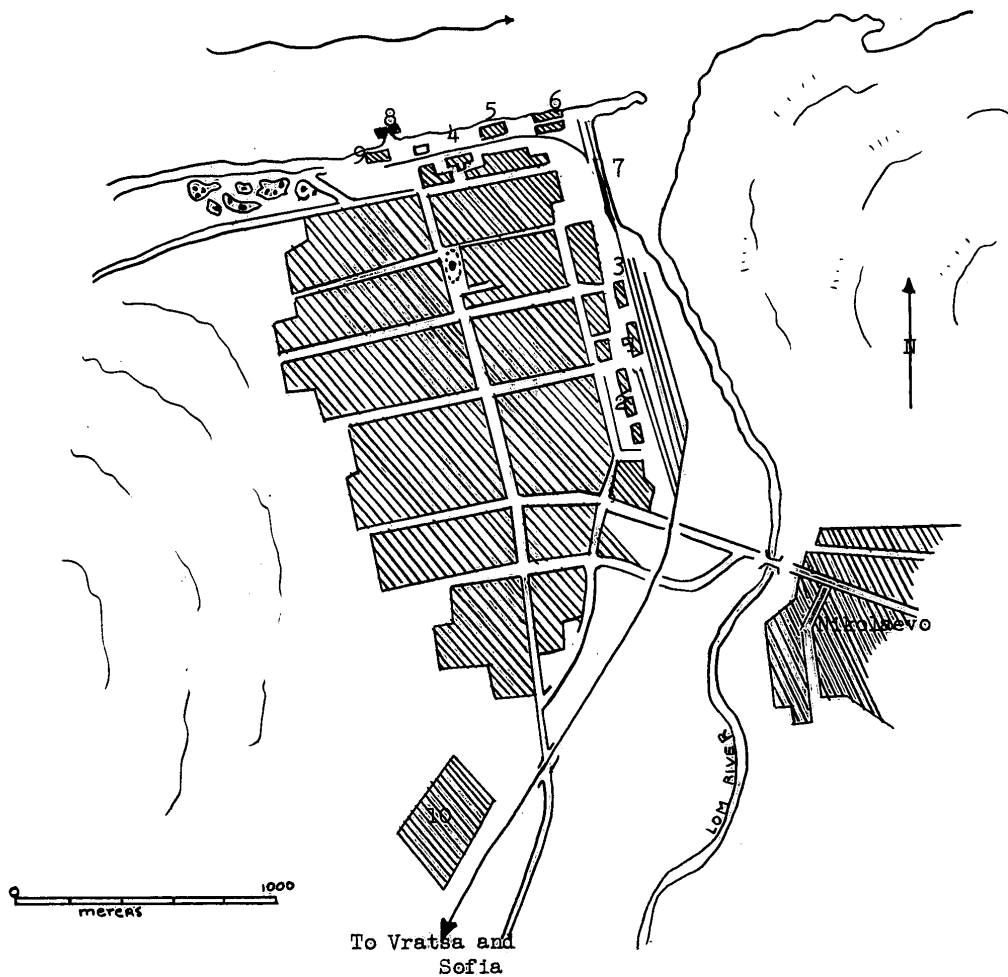
Barracks at Lom



Sketch of Truck which Draws
76.2 mm. guns, Model 1939



Railroad and Port Installations



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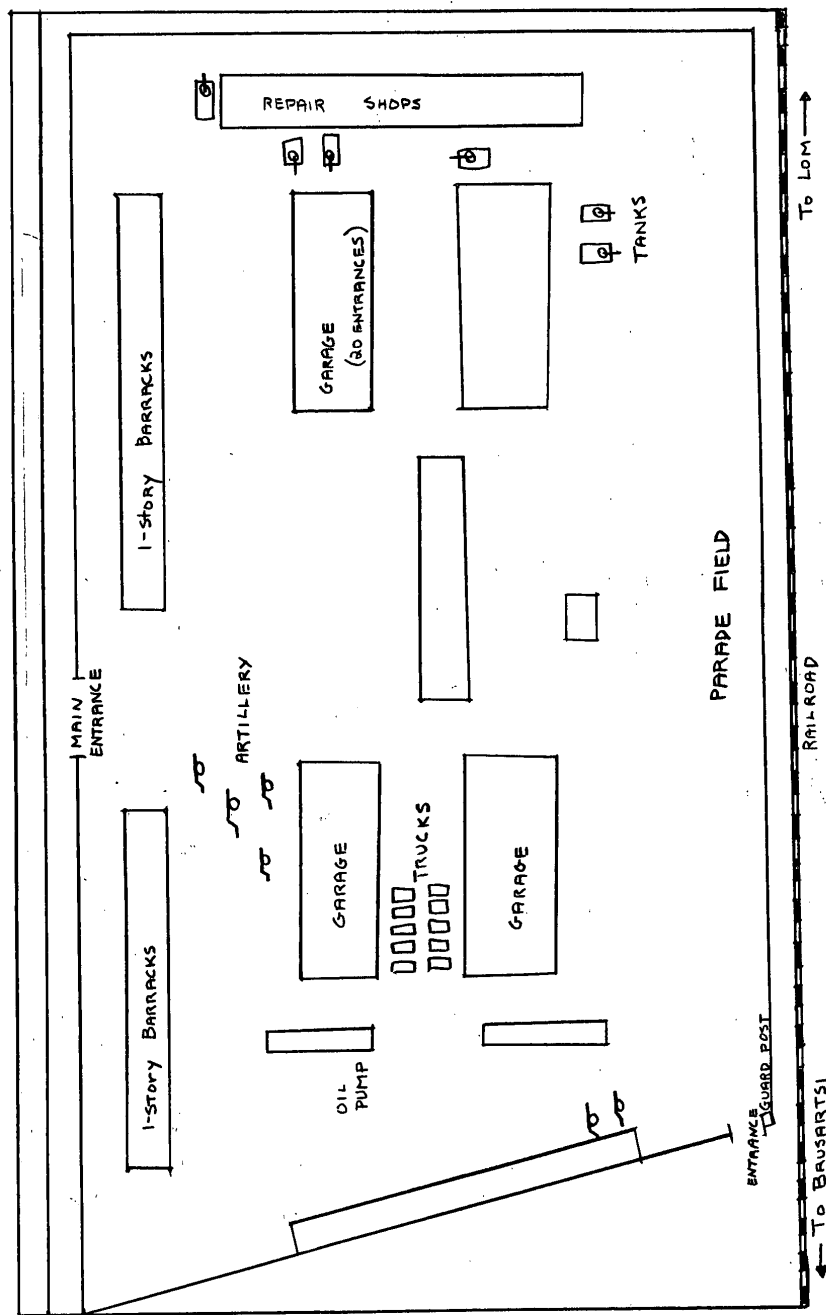
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APPENDIX

BARRACKS AT LOM



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